

Please amend the application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph at page 13, lines 23-29 to page 14, lines 1-9 with the following amended paragraph:

Trap 715 is a portion of conduit 754 that is lower in height than either end of the conduit, e.g., so that fluid in the conduit tends to collect there under gravity. The lowest portion of the trap 715 is generally below the lowest end of conduit 754 by a multiple of the conduit internal diameter (or average internal diameter) of at least about 3 times, more typically, at least about 5 times, even more typically about 10 times and preferably at least about 20 times. The trap 715 is typically a U-shaped portion of conduit, and the ends, e.g., at input and output valves 703 and 702 are preferably at the same height. Waste valve 704 can be coupled to any point in the trap 715 but is typically coupled to the lowest point of the trap 715. The volume of the conduits bounded by valves 703, 702, and 704, e.g., the volume of the trap 715, in milliliters, is related to the cross-sectional area of the conduit by a multiplier that is typically less than about 15, more typically less than about 10, even more typically less than about 5, still more typically less than about 2, and preferably less than about 0.5. For example, for a conduit with a cross sectional area of 1 millimeter², if the factor is 10, the volume is less than about 10 milliliters; if the factor is 2, the volume is less than about 2 milliliters; and the like.

Please replace the paragraph at page 15, lines 14-29 to page 16, lines 1-6 with the following amended paragraph:

Fig. 7C depicts an aseptic fluidic interface apparatus 752 with a relief valve 758, overflow reservoir 760, and filter [[762]] 766, all located on relief conduit 764. Flow sensor 718 can optionally be located on relief conduit 764 as shown. Relief conduit 764 extends from waste conduit 756 at a point between trap 715 and waste valve 704, and ends in fluid communication with the external environment through filter 766. Filter 766 excludes at least a portion of external contaminants from at least a portion of the relief conduit. The filter can be located anywhere between valve 758 and the distal end of conduit 764, preferably at the end as depicted

in Fig. 7C. Typically, the filter is selected to exclude microorganisms and particulate contaminants, e.g., the filter excludes contaminants having a diameter greater than about 1 μm , more typically greater than about 0.5 μm , and preferably greater than about 0.2 μm . Overflow reservoir 760 can be located anywhere between valve 758 and the distal end of conduit 764, preferably between the filter 718 and valve 758 as depicted in Fig. 7C. Flow sensor 718, which can be located anywhere in apparatus 752, is typically at waste conduit 756 or relief conduit 764. If the overflow elements are employed, flow sensor 718 is typically at conduit 764 as shown, preferably between valve 758 and reservoir 760. A second filter 768 can be employed at conduit 764, e.g., between valve 758 and trap 715. Filter 768 is sized smaller than filter 766, i.e., excludes at least a portion of contaminants that pass through filter 766. [[Fir]] For example, filter 768 is typically sized to exclude particles less than about 75 % of the size excluded by filter 766, more typically, less than about 50 % of the size excluded by filter 766, and preferably, less than about 25% of the size excluded by filter 766.